

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-04 USIA-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 OTPE-00 L-01 PM-03

NSC-05 SS-15 DRC-01 /058 W

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P R 190613Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 912

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BONN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL, GW, YO, US

SUBJECT: AFN INTERFERENCE WITH RADIO SARAJEVO

REF : BELGRADE 5055

1. BOSNIA AND HERCEGOVINA SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN RELATIONS MRS. SANA SALAHOVIC, ON OCCASION OF DCM'S OFFICE CALL IN SARAJEVO, AND IN RESPONSE TO DCM'S MENTION OF IMPENDING OPENING OF US INFORMATION CENTER AS INDICATION OF US INTEREST IN EXPANDING TIES WITH B-H, WELCOMED USIC, BUT ADDED THAT ANOTHER, UNPLEASANT, SITUATION EXISTS BETWEEN US ANB B-H. RADIO SARAJEVO WISHES TO INFORM YUGOSLAV GASTARBEITER IN FRG ABOUT YUGOSLAV EVENTS, BUT ITS TRANSMISSIONS ARE BEING INTERFERED WITH BY AFN. THIS HAS BECOME A MATTER OF CONCERN IN B-H. MRS. SALAHOVIC ADDED THAT GOOD CONTACTS BETWEEN US AND B-H CANNOT CONTINUE TO EXIST WITHOUT RADIO SARAJEVO BEING ALLOWED TO BRAODCAST TO BOSNIAN WORKERS IN FRG. USG OFFERS MADE THUS FAR TO CORRECT SITUATION HAVE NOT BEEN SUFFICIENT. DCM REITERATED TALKING POINTS STATE 208987. BEFORE CHANGING  
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SUBJECT, SALAHOVIC CLAIMED THAT GASTARBEITER IN

FRG ARE COMPLAINING THEY CANNOT HEAR RADIO SARAJEVO.

2. ADDITIONALLY, VICTOR JACKOVICH, NEW USIC DIRECTOR IN SARAJEVO, DURING OCTOBER 15 OFFICE CALL ON DEPUTY SEC INFO FOR B-H MURAT KUSTURICA, WAS CONFRONTED WITH AN EMOTIONAL EXPOSITION OF THE B-H VIEWPOINT, WHEN KUSTURICA STRESSED THAT THE "ILLEGAL EXPROPRIATION (NEZAKONITO ODUZIMANJE)" OF RAIOD SARAJEVO'S "LEGALLY ALLOTTED FREQUENCY" IS "A VERY SERIOUS THING." KUSTURICA ADDED THAT THE B-H GOVERNMENT HAD ALREADY DECIDED TO TAKE THE "STERNEST MEASURES POSSIBLE" TOWARD US. WHEN JACKOVICH ATTEMPTED TO REMONSTRATE THAT PROBLEM WAS BASICALLY TECHNICAL ONE, KUSTURICA REPLIED CURTLY THAT IT WAS TOO LATE FOR TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS, THE PROBLEM HAS BECOME A POLITICAL ONE. AFTER REPEATING THAT IT IS "AN AMERICAN PROBLEM," BECAUSE "ILLEGAL INTERFERENCE" IS BEING CAUSED SOLELY BY AMERICAN RADIO STATIONS, KUSTURICA CONCLUDED BY SAYING "THE THING HAS GONE TO THE TOP, THE VERY TOP."

3. WITH USIC SARAJEVO SCHEDULED TO OPEN NOVEMBER 18 (SUBJECT SEPTTEL) EMBASSY FEELS ONE MORE GESTURE OUR GOODWILL WOULD BE USEFUL IN PERHAPS HADING OFF B-H LINKAGE USIC ACTIVITIES IN B-H WITH FRACAS BETWEEN AFN AND RAIOD SARAJEVO. WE SUGGEST ONE MORE POWER REDUCTION TEST, TO BE MONITORED BY VOA MONITOR JOE SHERRILL IN BANJA LUKA, OR OTHER LIKELY BOSNIAN SITE, THE RESULTS OF WHICH COULD BE USED AS AN ARGUING POINT IN ON-GOING DISCUSSIONS WITH THE BOSNIANS. THIS WOULD HAVE TO BE DONE PRIOR SHERRILL'S DEPARTURE ON EXTENDED MONITORING TRIP THROUGH EE AND USSR, SCHEDULED TO BEGIN NOVEMBER 1. DEPARTMENT'S PRIORITY REPONSE THIS SUGGESTION REQUESTED.

4. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO US IF DEPARTMENT COULD SPELL OUT LEGALITIES OUR POSITION THAT RADIO SARAJEVO DOES NOT HAVE LEGAL LEG TO STAND ON WHEN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IT CLAIMS IT HAS SOLE BROADCASTING RIGHTS TO 611 KHZ. SHERRILL'S BELGRADE MONITORING OFFICE REPORTS THAT CO-CHANNEL MOSCOW HAS BEEN OBSERVED WITH STRONG INTERFERENCE TO SARAJEVO TRANSMISSION FOR PAST SEVERAL WEEKS. MOSCOW TRANSMISSION CLEARLY STRONGER THAN AFN TRANSMISSION. WE UNDERSTAND PROVISIONS ITU FOR SETTling DISPUTES, BUT DO NOT KNOW HOW SIGNAL RADIUSES ARE ASSIGNED

AND CONTROLLED, IF AT ALL. SINCE WE ARE INVOLVED  
IN THIS ARGUMENT, LIKE IT OR NOT, WE WISH TO MAKE  
MOST INTELLIGENT POSSIBLE RESPONSE.  
TOON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, RADIO FREQUENCY INTERFERENCE, RADIO BROADCASTING  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 OCT 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** shawdg  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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